GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:883
ANSWERED ON:27.02.2001
PLYING OF SCHOOL BUSES IN DELHI
PRABHUNATH SINGH;RADHA MOHAN SINGH;RAGHUNATH JHA;RAMJI MANJHI

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been no significant improvement in the management and plying of school buses even after directions by the Supreme Court and school children continue to be butchered and injured on the roads;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether there is any limit of standing passengers in the buses;

(d) if so, the details in this regard;

(e) the reasons for not enforcing the law by the police;

(f) the number of buses impounded by Delhi Police which are plying without electronic speed governors during the current year;
(g) the number of persons killed by these buses;
(h) whether century-old laws allow rash drivers get away easily; and
(i) if so, the tangible steps proposed to be taken to check these deaths and to award exemplery punishment to the rash drivers?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO)

(a)&(b): Though there have occurred some instances of accidents in which school children were victims, the offending vehicles have not necessarily been school buses. Delhi Police, in association with the State Transport Authority of Government of

National Capital Territory of Delhi and school management have been ensuring enforcement of the directions of the Supreme Court.

(c)&(d): Yes, Sir. As per the permit conditions, there is provision to carry twenty standing passengers in a stage Carriage bus.

(e): The Delhi Traffic Police challaned 42 school buses during the period 1998 to 15th February, 2001 for carrying more school children than their registered capacity.

(f): The number of buses impounded by Delhi Police during the current year till 12th February, 2001 in connection with this offence is 83.

(g): The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(h)& (i): There is a specific penal provision in the existing law to proceed against rash driving. The measures taken by Delhi Police to effectively regulate the movement of traffic include strict enforcement of traffic rules and regulations and prosecution of violators; study and analysis of fatal accidents for identification of actual causes leading to such accidents and suggesting remedial measures to negate the causative factors identified; and creating through adequate publicity awareness among public regarding road safety measures.